

## MINORITY QUESTION IN THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENTAL PROCESS

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### ABSTRACT

Given the monumental friction, tension and acrimony occasioned by minority question in Nigeria's governmental process, the paper is aimed at encapsulating the dynamics of minority question as it affects/impact the governmental process of Nigeria. It argues that minority question in Nigeria, just like other parts of the developed world, including Australia for example, reinforces itself in the culture and pervasive nature of ethnicity, defined in terms of group interest, sectional polarization, self-esteem and identification. Findings revealed that, Ethnicity is therefore considered as the epicenter of minority agitations as each of these groups struggle not in the nation's interest, but in the interest of identifiable groups and regional hegemony for recognition and control oil resources. The paper concludes that the minority question can not be divorce from governmental processes, because it has become a part of socio-political fabric of the Nigerian state, hence, the need for a virile federal structure that recognizes and responds positively to the interest of the minor groups is essential. The paper is a survey of literatures from existing works of scholars, generated to enhance the understanding of the subject matter under review; as such the methodology is strictly based on content secondary data.

*Keywords:* Ethnic Conflicts, Regional Politics, Sectarian Division, Nigeria.